

Public Notice of Application for Permit

Regulatory Branch
Post Office Box 3755
Seattle, Washington 98124-3755
Telephone (206) 764-3495

ATTN: Jessica Winkler, Project Manager

Public Notice Date: December 7, 2004 Expiration Date: January 7, 2005

Reference: 200400541

Name: Port Townsend Paper Corporation

Interested parties are hereby notified that an application has been received for a Department of the Army permit in accordance with Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of March 3, 1899 for certain work described below and shown on the enclosed drawings.

APPLICANT - Port Townsend Paper Corporation

Alice McConaughy, Environmental Project Manager

Post Office Box 3170

Port Townsend, Washington 98368

Telephone: (360) 379-2079

<u>LOCATION</u> – At the Port Townsend Paper Corporation facility in Port Townsend Bay, at Port Townsend, Jefferson County, Washington.

<u>WORK</u> - Dredge up to 3,700 cubic yards of wood debris from a 0.75 acre area with a clamshell bucket. One to 2 feet of material will be removed to reach a bottom elevation of minus 16 feet Mean Lower Low Water. Dredged material will be disposed of in an upland landfill.

<u>PURPOSE</u> - Maintenance of bottom elevations required for efficient dock operation.

PUGET SOUND DREDGED DISPOSAL ANALYSIS (PSDDA) – Dredged Material Testing: The proposed dredged material has been tested according to the procedures specified in PSDDA, a multi-agency program for the evaluation of dredged material proposed for disposal at open-water sites in Puget Sound. The PSDDA evaluations may include both chemical and biological testing of sediments. For this project, the PSDDA agencies determined that none of the sediments proposed for dredging were acceptable for open-water disposal. Therefore, the dredged material will be deposited at an upland site, approved by the Washington State Department of Ecology and the Jefferson County Department of Health. The sediment testing data are available at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), Seattle District, Dredged Material Management Office.

ENDANGERED SPECIES - The Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973, as amended, requires assessment of potential impacts to listed and proposed species. The Coastal/Puget Sound bull trout (Salvelinus confluentus), threatened, Puget Sound chinook (Oncorhynchus tshawytscha), threatened, Hood Canal summer chum (Oncorhynchus keta), threatened, bald eagle (Haliaeetus leucocephalus) threatened, marbled murrelet (Brachyramphus marmoratus), threatened, Steller sea lion (Eumetopias jubatus), threatened, humpback whale (Megaptera novaeangliae), endangered, and leatherback sea turtle (Dermochelys coriacea), endangered in the state of Washington, may occur in the proposed project area. For Stellar sea lion and marbled murrelet, critical habitat has been designated.

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A preliminary determination indicates that the activity may effect, but is not likely to adversely affect endangered or threatened species, or their critical habitat, designated under the Endangered Species Act of 1973. Informal consultation under Section 7 of the ESA has been initiated with National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS).

ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT - The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, as amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act of 1996, requires all Federal agencies to consult with the NMFS on all actions, or proposed actions, permitted, funded, or undertaken by the agency, that may adversely affect Essential Fish Habitat (EFH). EFH for Pacific salmon, groundfish, and coastal pelagic species occurs in the project area. The proposed action would impact approximately 0.75 acres of EFH for these species. The Corps has determined that the proposed action will not adversely affect designated EFH for federally managed fisheries in Washington waters. No further EFH consultation is necessary.

CULTURAL RESOURCES - The District Engineer has reviewed the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places, lists of properties determined eligible and other sources of information. There are no recorded historic properties within the permit area. The permit area has been so extensively modified by modern development that little likelihood exists for the proposed project to impinge upon an undisturbed historic property. The District Engineer invites responses to this public notice from Native American Nations or tribal governments, Federal, State, and local agencies, historical and archeological societies, and other parties likely to have knowledge of or concerns with historic properties in the area.

<u>PUBLIC HEARING</u> - Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

<u>EVALUATION</u> - The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact, including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits, which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal, must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered, including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The Corps is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, Native American Nations or tribal governments, State, and local agencies and officials; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for the work. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the activity.

<u>ADDITIONAL EVALUATION</u> - The state of Washington is reviewing this work for consistency with the approved Washington Coastal Zone Management Program.

Jefferson County has issued an exemption (MLA04-00294) from the requirement of obtaining a

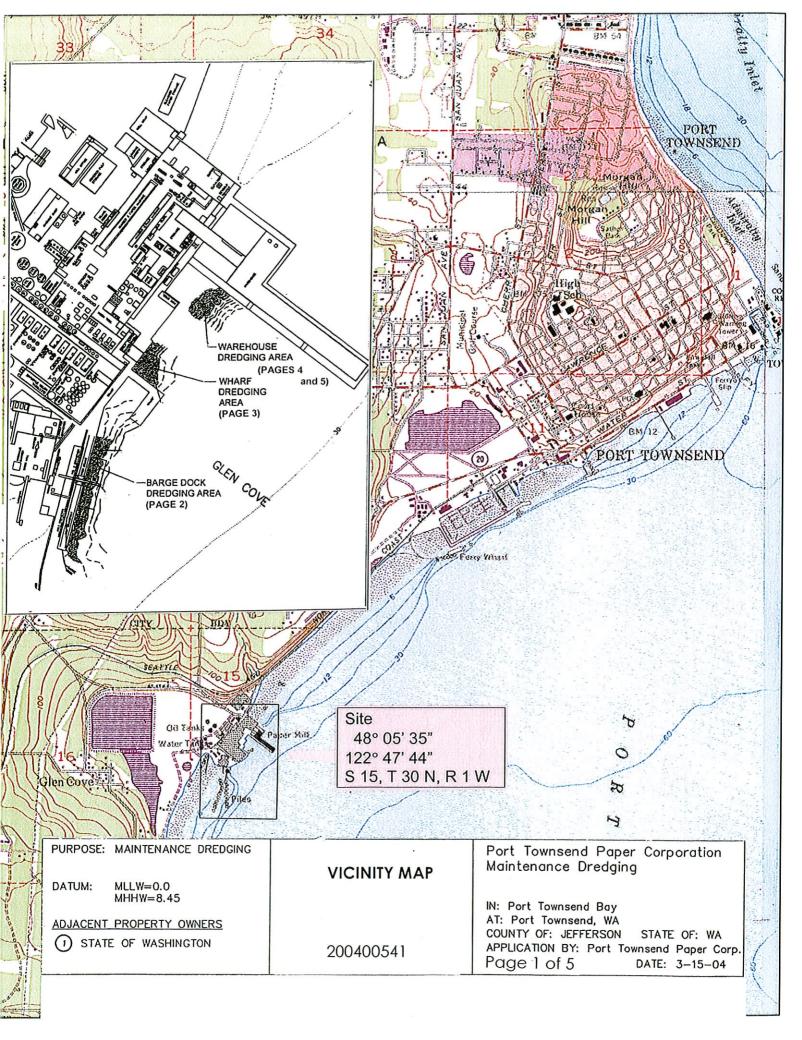
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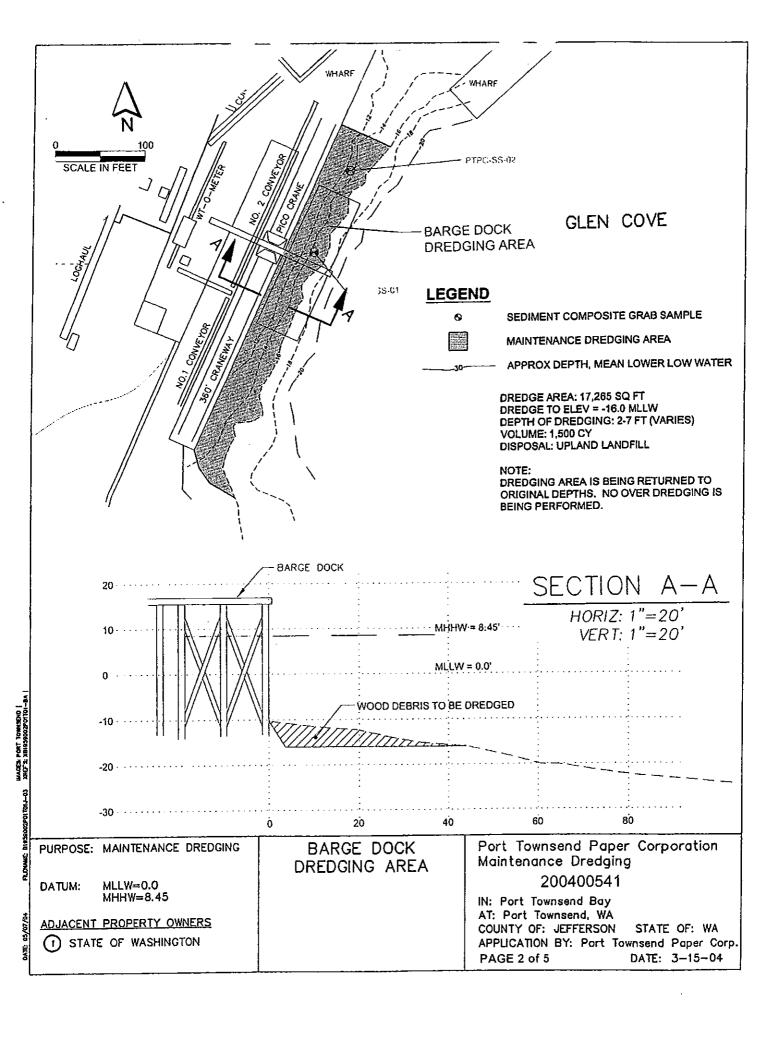
Jefferson County has issued an exemption (MLA04-00294) from the requirement of obtaining a Shorelines Substantial Development permit for this project.

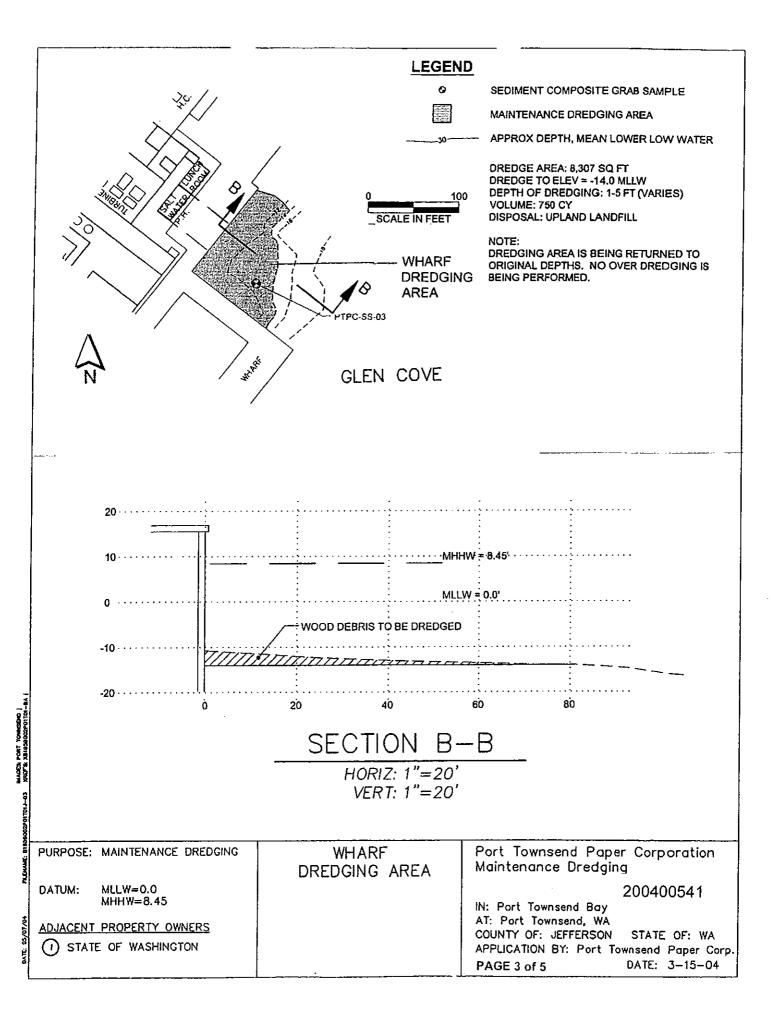
COMMENT AND REVIEW PERIOD – Conventional mail or email comments on this public notice will be accepted and made part of the record and will be considered in determining whether it would be in the public interest to authorize this proposal. In order to be accepted, email comments must originate from the author's email account and must include on the subject line of the email message the permit applicant's name and reference number as shown below. All email comments should be sent to Jessica.G.Winkler@usace.army.mil. Conventional mail comments should be sent U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Regulatory Branch, Post Office Box 3755, Seattle, Washington 98124-3755. Both conventional mail or email comments must include the permit applicant's name and reference number, as shown below, and the commentor's name, address, and phone number. All comments whether conventional mail or email must reach this office, no later than the expiration date of this public notice to ensure consideration. Please include the following name and reference number:

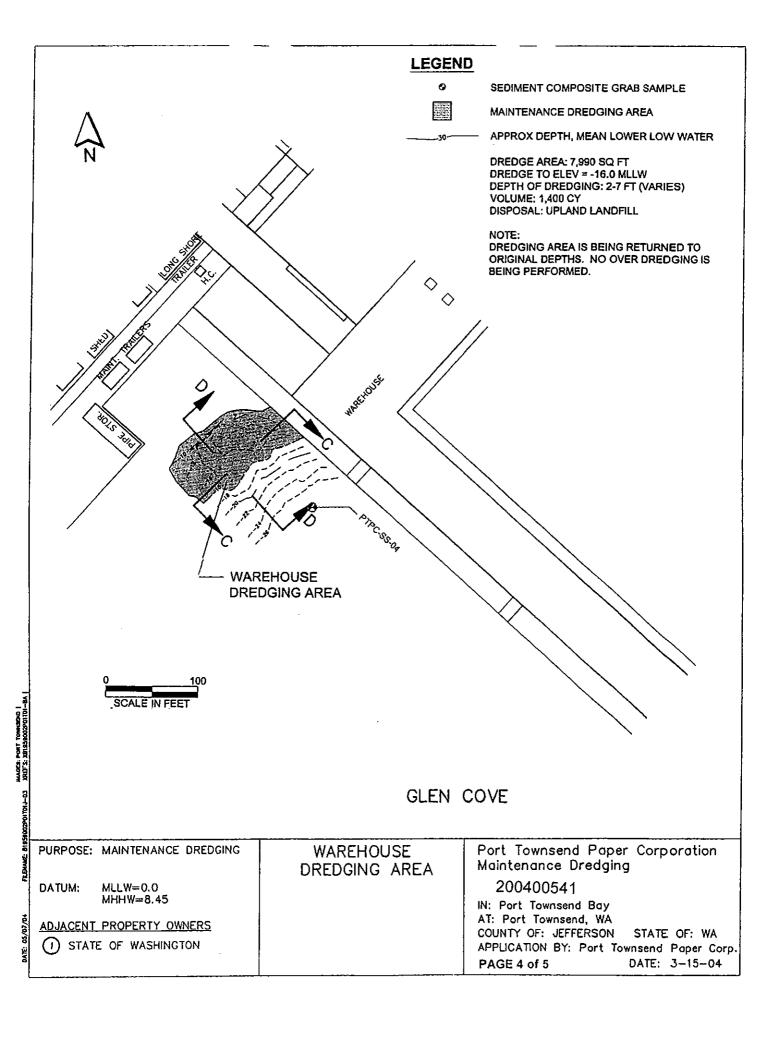
Port Townsend Paper Corporation, 200400541

Encl Drawings (5)









Port Townsend

Paper Corporation

APPLICATION BY: Port Townsend Paper Corp.

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DATE: 3-15-04



STATE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

P.O. Box 47600 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7600 (360) 407-6000 • TDD Only (Hearing Impaired) (360) 407-6006

STATE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

Notice of Application for Certification of Consistency with the Washington Coastal Zone Management Program

Date: December 7, 2004

Notice is herby given that a request has been filed with the Department of Ecology, pursuant to the requirements of Section 307© of the federal Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1451), to certify that the project described in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Public Notice No. 200400541 will comply with the Washington State Coastal Zone Management Program and that the project will be conducted in a manner consistent with that Program.

Any person desiring to present views on the project pertaining to the project's compliance or consistency with the Washington State Coastal Zone Management Program may do so by providing written comments within 30 days of the above publication date to:

Federal Permit Coordinator
Department of Ecology
SEA Program
Post Office Box 47600
Olympia, Washington 98504-7600